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PP RUEHMA RUEHROV  
DE RUEHKH #2625 3101517  
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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5145  
INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE  
RHMFISS/CJTJF HOA

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 002625

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SENSITIVE  
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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: Darfur: NRF Press Release Claims Gov't has Transferred  
Chemical Weapons

¶1. (SBU) On November 1, Sudan Tribune, an online news service, posted a press release dated October 1, purportedly from the National Redemption Front, a grouping of Darfurian rebels that have not signed the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), claiming that the Sudanese Government had transferred chemical weapons to Darfur.

¶2. (U) The text of the press release is as follows:

(Begin text)

Khartoum Moves New Chemical Weapons into Darfur

OCTOBER 31, 2006 - The National Redemption Front (NRF) confirms that GoS has airlifted new weapons into Darfur. The airlift that took place a week ago during the festival of the holy month of Ramadan included banned chemical weapons and lethal bombs, described as entirely new to Darfur battlefields.

Rather than seeing this as a new twist, the NRF takes it as perfectly in line with Albashir's genocidal policy and war of annihilation in Darfur. Impervious to all International Conventions of Engagement, Albashir once publicly ordered his troops "not to bring him back any war prisoners or injured enemies" in their battles in Darfur. Khartoum's renegotiation maneuvers are nothing but a public relations exercise and a cover up for insidious military tactics. Only a few weeks ago Khartoum's Minister for Defense was in Russia procuring new arms for millions of Dollars to boost their military adventures in Darfur.

The NRF assures its constituency that it is monitoring Albashir's gamble in Darfur and is ready to teach him, yet, another lesson, just as it did in Umsidra and Kari Kari of North Darfur.

Despite, the NRF affirms to the UN, and the international community that Darfur problem is political and that it has no military solution as Albashir still foolishly thinks.

(End text)

¶3. (SBU) Comment: Embassy Khartoum Defense Liaison Office has no information regarding this claim, and does not regard it as credible; it more likely appears an effort by the NRF to call attention to continued military build-ups by the Sudanese Government in Darfur.

POWERS